



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Patent and Trademark Office

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SERIAL NUMBER	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.

EXAMINER

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

DATE MAILED:

EXAMINER INTERVIEW SUMMARY RECORD

All participants (applicant, applicant's representative, PTO personnel):

(1) Mr. Thomas (3) Mr. Tice
(2) Mr. Badi (4) _____

Date of interview August 9, 2002Type: Telephonic Personal (copy is given to applicant applicant's representative).Exhibit shown or demonstration conducted: Yes No. If yes, brief description: Samples of the present invention were presentedAgreement was reached with respect to some or all of the claims in question. was not reached.Claims discussed: 1, 4, 5, 16 & 17 as proposedIdentification of prior art discussed: Allers et al

Description of the general nature of what was agreed to if an agreement was reached, or any other comments: Attached
proposed claims were discussed along with differences
over the prior art to Allers et al. However, no
agreement was reached.

(A fuller description, if necessary, and a copy of the amendments, if available, which the examiner agreed would render the claims allowable must be attached. Also, where no copy of the amendments which would render the claims allowable is available, a summary thereof must be attached.)

Unless the paragraphs below have been checked to indicate to the contrary, A FORMAL WRITTEN RESPONSE TO THE LAST OFFICE ACTION IS NOT WAIVED AND MUST INCLUDE THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW (e.g., items 1-7 on the reverse side of this form). If a response to the last Office action has already been filed, then applicant is given one month from this interview date to provide a statement of the substance of the interview.

It is not necessary for applicant to provide a separate record of the substance of the interview.

Since the examiner's interview summary above (including any attachments) reflects a complete response to each of the objections, rejections and requirements that may be present in the last Office action, and since the claims are now allowable, this completed form is considered to fulfill the response requirements of the last Office action.


Examiner's Signature

A complete written statement as to the substance of any face-to-face or telephone interview with regard to an application must be made of record in the application, whether or not an agreement with the examiner was reached at the interview.

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(b) In every instance where reconsideration is requested in view of an interview with an examiner, a complete written statement of the reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action must be filed by the applicant. An interview does not remove the necessity for response to Office actions as specified in §§ 1.111, 1.135. (35 U.S.C. 132)

§ 1.2. Business to be transacted in writing. All business with the Patent or Trademark Office should be transacted in writing. The personal attendance of applicants or their attorneys or agents at the Patent and Trademark Office is unnecessary. The action of the Patent and Trademark Office will be based exclusively on the written record in the Office. No attention will be paid to any alleged oral promise, stipulation, or understanding in relation to which there is disagreement or doubt.

The action of the Patent and Trademark Office cannot be based exclusively on the written record in the Office if that record is itself incomplete through the failure to record the substance of interviews.

It is the responsibility of the applicant or the attorney or agent to make the substance of an interview of record in the application file, unless the examiner indicates he or she will do so. It is the examiner's responsibility to see that such a record is made and to correct material inaccuracies which bear directly on the question of patentability.

Examiners must complete a two-sheet carbon interleaf Interview Summary Form for each interview held after January 1, 1978 where a matter of substance has been discussed during the interview by checking the appropriate boxes and filling in the blanks in neat handwritten form using a ball point pen. Discussions regarding only procedural matters, directed solely to restriction requirements for which interview recordation is otherwise provided for in Section 812.01 of the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure, or pointing out typographical errors or unreadable script in Office actions or the like, are excluded from the interview recordation procedures below.

The Interview Summary Form shall be given an appropriate paper number, placed in the right hand portion of the file, and listed on the "Contents" list on the file wrapper. The docket and serial register cards need not be updated to reflect interviews. In a personal interview, the duplicate copy of the Form is removed and given to the applicant (or attorney or agent) at the conclusion of the interview. In the case of a telephonic interview, the copy is mailed to the applicant's correspondence address either with or prior to the next official communication. If additional correspondence from the examiner is not likely before an allowance or if other circumstances dictate, the Form should be mailed promptly after the telephonic interview rather than with the next official communication.

The Form provides for recordation of the following information:

- Serial Number of the application
- Name of applicant
- Name of examiner
- Date of interview
- Type of interview (personal or telephonic)
- Name of participant(s) (applicant, attorney or agent, etc.)
- An indication whether or not an exhibit was shown or a demonstration conducted
- An identification of the claims discussed
- An identification of the specific prior art discussed
- An indication whether an agreement was reached and if so, a description of the general nature of the agreement (may be by attachment of a copy of amendments or claims agreed as being allowable). (Agreements as to allowability are tentative and do not restrict further action by the examiner to the contrary.)
- The signature of the examiner who conducted the interview
- Names of other Patent and Trademark Office personnel present.

The Form also contains a statement reminding the applicant of his responsibility to record the substance of the interview.

It is desirable that the examiner orally remind the applicant of his obligation to record the substance of the interview in each case unless both applicant and examiner agree that the examiner will record same. Where the examiner agrees to record the substance of the interview, or when it is adequately recorded on the Form or in an attachment to the Form, the examiner should check a box at the bottom of the Form informing the applicant that he need not supplement the Form by submitting a separate record of the substance of the interview.

It should be noted, however, that the Interview Summary Form will not normally be considered a complete and proper recordation of the interview unless it includes, or is supplemented by the applicant or the examiner to include, all of the applicable items required below concerning the substance of the interview:

A complete and proper recordation of the substance of any interview should include at least the following applicable items:

- 1) A brief description of the nature of any exhibit shown or any demonstration conducted,
- 2) an identification of the claims discussed,
- 3) an identification of specific prior art discussed,
- 4) an identification of the principal proposed amendments of a substantive nature discussed, unless these are already described on the Interview Summary Form completed by the examiner,
- 5) a brief identification of the general thrust of the principal arguments presented to the examiner. The identification of arguments need not be lengthy or elaborate. A verbatim or highly detailed description of the arguments is not required. The identification of the arguments is sufficient if the general nature or thrust of the principal arguments made to the examiner can be understood in the context of the application file. Of course, the applicant may desire to emphasize and fully describe those arguments which he feels were or might be persuasive to the examiner,
- 6) a general indication of any other pertinent matters discussed, and
- 7) if appropriate, the general results or outcome of the interview unless already described in the Interview Summary Form completed by the examiner.

Examiners are expected to carefully review the applicant's record of the substance of an interview. If the record is not complete or accurate, the examiner will give the applicant one month from the date of the notifying letter or the remainder of any period for response, whichever is longer, to complete the response and thereby avoid abandonment of the application (37 CFR 1.135(c)).

Examiner to Check for Accuracy

Applicant's summary of what took place at the interview should be carefully checked to determine the accuracy of any argument or statement attributed to the examiner during the interview. If there is an inaccuracy and it bears directly on the question of patentability, it should be pointed out in the next Office letter. If the claims are allowable for other reasons of record, the examiner should send a letter setting forth his or her version of the statement attributed to him. If the record is complete and accurate, the examiner should place the indication "Interview record OK" on the paper recording the substance of the interview along with the date and the examiner's initials.

1. (Amended) A sealed blister assembly consisting essentially of:
 - a plastic sheet having a recess formed therein, the recess having a perimeter all around an opening into the recess, and the perimeter further comprising an undercut;
 - a plastic lid adapted to attach to the perimeter of the recess and cover the opening into the recess, the plastic lid comprising a raised ridge having an outside edge adapted to engage the undercut of the plastic sheet around the entire perimeter,
 - wherein the engagement of the ridge and undercut forms a an impermeable seal, whereby a sealed blister is formed from the plastic lid and the recess of the plastic sheet.
2. The sealed blister assembly described in claim 1, wherein the plastic sheet comprises a plurality of recesses, and wherein the plastic lid comprises a corresponding plurality of ridges to form a plurality of sealed blisters.
3. The sealed blister assembly described in claim 1, wherein the outside edge of the ridge comprises walls that flare outwardly.
4. (Amended) The sealed blister assembly described in claim 1, wherein the undercut comprises sidewalls, the outside edge of the ridge comprises walls, and further wherein the inside of the sidewalls are in frictional engagement with the outside edge of the ridge walls and the sealed blister results from the engagement of the undercut sidewalls and ridge walls.

5. (Amended) The sealed blister assembly described in claim 3, wherein the undercut comprises sidewalls, ~~and the sealed blister results from the engagement of the undercut sidewalls and ridge walls and further wherein the inside of the sidewalls are in frictional engagement with the outside edge of the ridge.~~

6. The sealed blister assembly described in claim 1, wherein the plastic sheet is comprised of polyethylene.

7. The sealed blister assembly described in claim 1, wherein the plastic lid is comprised of polyethylene.

8. The sealed blister assembly described in claim 6, wherein the plastic lid is comprised of polyethylene.

9. The sealed blister assembly described in claim 5, wherein the undercut sidewalls flare outwardly in a corresponding fashion to the flared ridge walls.

10. The sealed blister assembly described in claim 4, further wherein the undercut sidewalls are shorter than the ridge walls.

11. The sealed blister assembly described in claim 1, further wherein the sealed blister is used for packaging a medication and the sealed blister meets or exceeds the requirements to be a U.S.P. Class A individual unit-dose container.

12. The sealed blister assembly described in claim 1, further wherein the sealed blister is used for packaging a medication and the sealed blister meets or exceeds the requirements to be a U.S.P. Class B individual unit-dose container.

13. (Amended) A package assembly for dispensing a pharmaceutical medication comprising:

a plastic sheet having a medication receiving recess formed therein and with a substantially planar shoulder portion disposed along the peripheral portion of the sheet and further with a perimeter around the recess;

a pharmaceutical medication positioned in said recess of said plastic sheet;

a plastic lid positioned in an overlying relationship to the plastic sheet, the plastic lid comprising a raised ridge having an outside edge corresponding to the perimeter of the recess and frictionally engaging the perimeter to thereby close the recess and impermeably seal the medication therein.

14. The package assembly set forth in claim 13, wherein the perimeter further comprises an undercut, and the ridge frictionally engages the undercut to seal the medication therein.

15. The package assembly set forth in claim 13, wherein the plastic sheet comprises a plurality of recesses, wherein pharmaceutical medication is positioned in each recess, and wherein the plastic lid comprises a corresponding plurality of ridges to form a plurality of medication - containing sealed blisters.

16. (Amended) A sealed blister assembly set forth in claim 1, wherein the length and width dimensions of the ridge are larger than the corresponding dimensions of the undercut.

17. (Amended) A package assembly set forth in claim 14, wherein the length and width dimensions of the ridge are larger than the corresponding dimensions of the undercut.